



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CONFIRMED MINUTES

Thursday 10th November 2022 @ 6.00pm
Council Chambers, 16-18 Anne Street
George Town

George Town Council
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 10TH NOVEMBER 2022
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 10th November 2022 in the Council Chambers, George Town commencing at 6.00 pm.

CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993, I hereby certify that the advice, information and recommendations contained within this Agenda have been given by a person who has the qualifications and / or experience necessary to give such advice, information and recommendations or such advice was obtained and taken into account in providing the general advice contained within the Agenda.



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

10th November, 2022

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Local Government Act 1993, Division 3 – Annual General Meeting

72B. Annual General Meeting

1. A council must hold an Annual General Meeting on a date that –
 - a. Is not later than 15 December in each year; and
 - b. Is not before 14 days after the date of the first publication of a notice under subsection (2).
2. A council must publish a notice in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area or other prescribed newspaper specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
3. If a quorum of the council is not present at an Annual General Meeting –
 - (a) the Annual General Meeting is to be reconvened and held within 14 days; and
 - (b) a notice is to be published in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
4. Only electors in the municipal area are entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting.
5. A motion at an Annual General Meeting is passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands or by any other means of ascertaining the vote the council determines.
6. A motion passed at an Annual General Meeting is to be considered at the next meeting of the council.
7. The general manager is to keep minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

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Acknowledgement of Country

George Town Council acknowledges the Palawa People from the Litarimirina tribe from Port Dalrymple as the traditional custodians of the land.

We honour and give thanks for the caring of country, seas and skies of kinimathatakinta and surrounds.

We pay respect to the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope of pakana people in Lutruwita.

AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is advised that it is **Council Policy** to record the proceedings of meetings of Council on digital media to assist in the preparation of minutes, and to clarify any queries relating to the Minutes that are raised during a subsequent meeting under the section “Confirmation of Minutes”.

The recording does not replace the written minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared.

All meetings of the Council shall be digitally recorded as provided for by Regulation 33 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 15(2).

In accordance with the requirements of Council’s GTC-1 Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

Although the level of COVID-19 risk in Tasmania is now regarded as low to moderate, it is still present in all regions of the state. Therefore, Council meetings will still be guided by the Tasmanian Public Health Guidelines for COVID-19. These include:

- *Council meetings will continue to be held at the George Town Council Chambers;*
- *Councillors feeling unwell or isolating should not attend meetings;*
- *Public attendees are to register their details and confirm they do not have flu-like symptoms;*
- *If an attendee becomes unwell they will be required to leave and health advice will be sought. Physical distancing and good hygiene continue to be promoted as the strongest safeguards to prevent the spread of COVID-19.*
- *Seating is arranged to provide physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres and attendees will be requested not to move seating or tables.*
- *Attendee numbers will be limited to arranged seating, with no standing in the public gallery. In addition attendees can wear a mask if they are comfortable doing so.*

Council will be allowing a maximum of 10 persons into the Ordinary Council meeting. You must pre-register to attend this meeting of Council.

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the above Act and Notice, and the standard applicable provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

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1. ATTENDANCE

Mayor Greg Kieser (Chair)
Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson
Cr Winston Archer
Cr Heather Ashley
Cr Tim Harris
Cr Winston Mason
Emmy Banning
Rebecca Tayler

The Chair thanked Abbey Allison, Council's Communications Officer for an outstanding effort in the presentation of the Annual Report.

2. APOLOGIES

Cr Heather Barwick
Cr Simone Lowe
Cr Jason Orr

3. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager, Mr Shane Power
Director Corporate and Community, Mrs Cheryl Hyde
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement, Mrs Kristen Desmond
Executive Support & Governance Officer, Ms Louise Dickenson

4. MEETING PROCEDURES

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Council serves much the same purpose as an Annual General Meeting of the public sector, where the Board of Directors (Elected Members) gives an account of their stewardship over the affairs of the municipality for the financial year in review.

Annual meetings also provide an opportunity for residents (the shareholders) to question Council's performance for the year in review.

The Annual General Meeting will be generally conducted in accordance with the procedures outlined below and the usual Council procedures for the conduct of its meetings.

- Attendees are asked to complete the Attendance Register.
- Only submissions, questions or motions relating to the Annual Report will be accepted in writing.
- A motion must be seconded and passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands.
- Only electors in the George Town municipal area are entitled to vote at an AGM.

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- A motion passed at the AGM will be considered at the next ordinary meeting of the Council.
- Minutes of the AGM will be kept by the General Manager to accurately record the content of the meeting, attendances and apologies, any matter discussed, any motions moved and any questions asked and the answers provided by (whom).
- Questions which cannot be answered will be taken on notice and responded to in writing.
- The Chairperson's ruling is to be final.

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5. MINUTES OF 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minute No. 158/22

DECISION

Moved: Cr Harris
Seconded: Cr Dawson

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 11th November 2021 of the George Town Council as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings (attached).

VOTING

For: Cr Keiser, Cr Dawson, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Mason

Against: Cr Archer, Ms E Banning, Ms R Tayler

Abstained: Cr Archer, Ms E Banning, Ms R Tayler

CARRIED 5/3

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6. MAYOR'S MESSAGE – 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT

I am delighted to present the Annual Report for 2021/2022. To an extent, it was a year of tribulation and disruption; however our team again rose to the challenge delivering a high level of customer service, capital works delivery and advancing a significant portion of the Council's Annual Plan Actions. This was achieved in an environment of extra ordinary resource constraints, perhaps making the achievement somewhat more outstanding than other years with higher results.

Some key performance indicators include achieving an operating surplus of \$182,135, and capital works delivery of 61% and a customer service request completion rate of 93%. Annual Plan Action completion rate 74%. Building and planning activity continues to remain strong, confirming that property developers and homeowners find our municipality a great place to live and invest. The reporting period resulted in excess of \$25M in new building works and the issuing of 125 planning permits.

Council continues to demonstrate sound governance and transparency by publishing quarterly performance reports that include information well in excess of legislative requirements.

Further governance improvements included updating policies for Public Question Time, Councillor Allowances, Collections, Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion, Community Assistance Grants and Gifts and Donations.

Throughout the year, we continued to respond to changing circumstances of COVID-19 restrictions, having had to transition to and from online and physical meetings of Council as required. Pleasingly, Council continued to advance the Annual Plan and the community's interests without the need to suspend or defer meetings. I thank my fellow elected members for their agility and the Council staff for their technical support.

Council also said farewell to Councillor Justine Brooks, who resigned in November 2021 having served as Councillor since the commencement of the current term in 2018. Cr Brooks served as the Chair of the Place Making Committee and a member of Anglicare's Communities for Children. Following a countback process administered by the Tasmania Electoral Commission, Cr Dean Gibbons was sworn back into office in December 2021. Having previously served as a councillor from 2011-2014, Cr Gibbons was warmly welcomed back by elected members and staff.

Despite the ups and downs and limitations of COVID-19, Council managed to support several well-patronised events. Always among my favourites is undertaking my ceremonial duties in welcoming and formally declaring community members from various parts of the world as Australians Citizens. Many community events strike a chord with me, including the Australia Day Pool Celebrations, Christmas Parade and the Seniors Concert, all of which are well received and are free to our community.

Our endeavours of creating a second economy through new tourism pursuits are bearing fruit. The Mt George Mountain Bike Trail network has been well received, with visitors from afar enjoying the world-class experience. Our team have also secured funding to kick start several new adventure pursuits in 2022/2023 under Wild Tamar's initiative. Watch this space. The Chair is very excited by this.

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6. MAYOR’S MESSAGE – 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT (CONT.)

Further funding was secured by the team for a diverse range of initiatives, including fishing bait stations, basketball scoreboards and digital shot clocks, drainage and oval works for three sports grounds, on and offroad shared pathways and cycling lanes, an electric vehicle charging station and road safety improvements among others. Much of the works associated with some of these grants will take place in 2022/2023. All in all, another outstanding year in attracting funds to provide community infrastructure without burdening the ratepayer.

Perhaps two of the most significant advocacy efforts in recent years include the state and federal governments, each committing \$70M (totalling \$140M) to establish a hydrogen hub at Bell Bay. The hub will provide critical infrastructure to stand up new industries and support existing industries to decarbonise.

The second major advocacy success was the bipartisan commitment of \$15M towards the development of the new Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre in George Town. The new centre will provide year-round swimming and aquatic activities with a heated indoor and outdoor pool. The centre will also include a 24-hour accessible gymnasium, host allied health services, an onsite café several other offerings for the community to enjoy. Preliminary works will commence in 2023. Again, a really excited development.

The 2021/2022 Annual Report is the last to be presented by the current term of Council. I have been privileged and proud to serve our amazing community as Mayor and thank my fellow elected members, past and present for their support.

Thank you.

Greg Kieser
MAYOR

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7. GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2021/2022 Annual Report. I hope you enjoy reading some of the highlights of what was a challenging yet exciting year for our organisation and our community.

Delivering on capital works in an environment where access to skilled labor and professional services is limited, materials are scarce with supply chains severely impacted by the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, compounded by unprecedented investment in commercial and domestic construction. Remarkably, Council still managed to achieve 65% of its capital works program.

Financial performance remained strong with another year of surplus at approximately \$180k and increase in recurrent revenue from \$12.1M to \$13.2M per annum. Likewise, the organisation's cash position strengthens to a five year high at approximately \$8.8M. This is a great outcome given investment in strategic assets in recent years. Recognition must given to the state and federal governments for their contributions through programs such as the Country Road and Bridges Program, Vulnerable Road Users Programs, Financial Assistance Grants and Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program.

Our team had another successful year sourcing externally funded capital for community projects, attracting over \$2.9M through competitive grants, \$2.36M through State election commitments, and attracted in excess of \$10M through the State Government in partnerships such as the BBAMZ and NEBHUB. None more exciting perhaps, then the bipartisan commitment of \$15M heading into the federal elections for the development of the George Town Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre. It is gratifying to witness the hard work of our team being justly rewarded. Our community is indeed well served by our talented staff.

That being said, the organisation said farewell to a number of staff members in key roles, prompting me to undertake a review of the senior level of the organisation and re-assess form and function in an effort to best position our organisation to meet the growing expectations of a growing and prosperous population. The result has seen the establishment of a three directorate structure, that I believe strikes the right balance in strategic, regulatory and operational delivery. Key areas will also benefit from an injection of new resources in engineering, works, planning, finance and governance, building capacity and redundancy.

On a closing note, I have been fortunate enough to have been reappointed as General Manager for a further five years. I am passionate about place shaping for the betterment of our community, and I am genuinely privileged to serve this role. I thank the elected members in their ongoing faith and trust in me, and extend my thanks to the community making our municipality such as a pleasant place to live and work.

Thank you.

Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

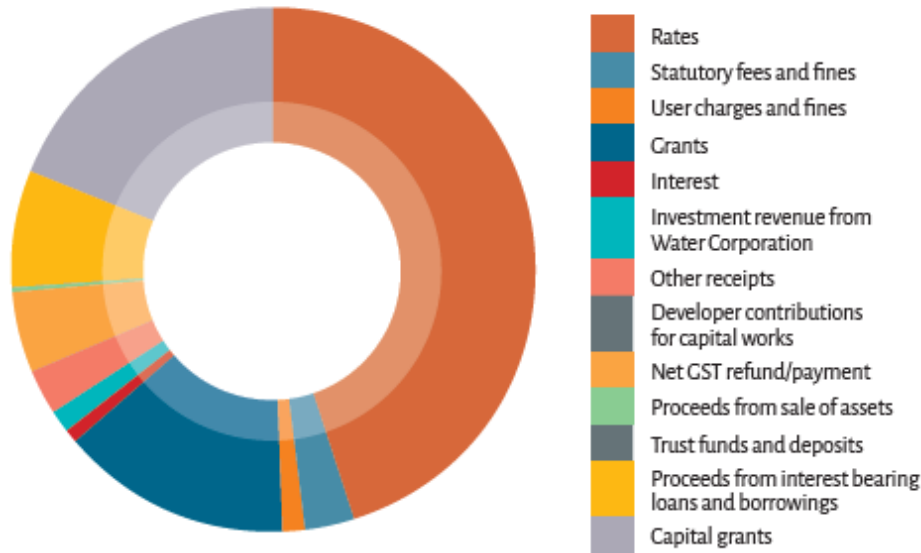
8. FINANCIAL REPORT – DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2021/22

Statement of Cash Flows

Sources of income

Cash Inflows



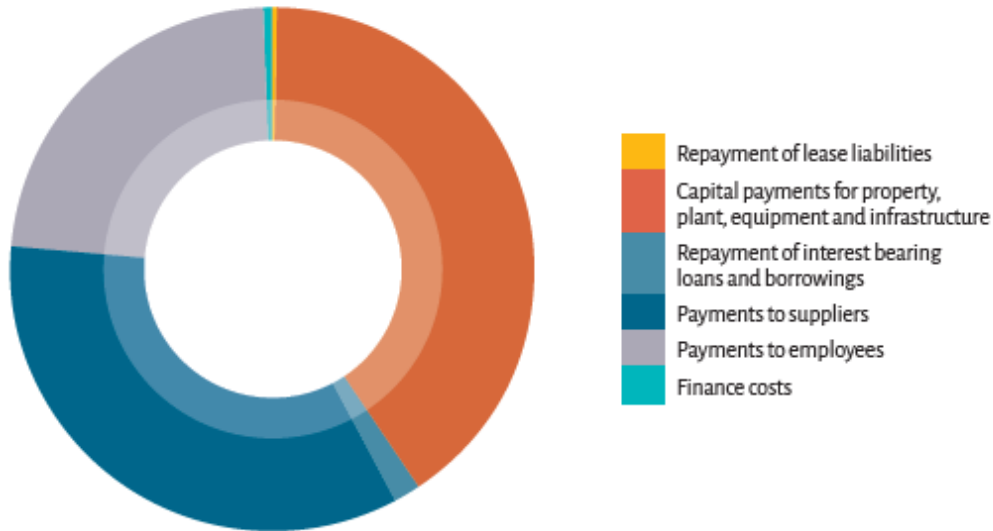
Cash Inflows	2021/2022 %	2021/2022 \$
Rates	45.57	\$ 9,315,135.00
Statutory fees and fines	2.87	\$ 586,830.00
User charges and fines	1.49	\$ 304,526.00
Grants	14.35	\$ 2,932,814.00
Interest	0.07	\$ 14,564.00
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	1.33	\$ 271,200.00
Other receipts	2.82	\$ 576,306.00
Developer contributions for capital works	0.17	\$ 33,750.00
Net GST refund/payment	4.87	\$ 995,280.00
Proceeds from sale of assets	0.28	\$ 56,227.00
Trust funds and deposits	0.19	\$ 38,444.00
Proceeds from interest bearing loans and borrowings	7.27	\$ 1,485,000.00
Capital grants	18.74	\$ 3,829,648.00
Total Cash Inflows	100.00	\$ 20,439,724.00



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8. FINANCIAL REPORT – DIRECTOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY (CONT.)

Cash Outflows



Cash Outflows	2021/2022 %	2021/2022 \$
Repayment of lease liabilities	0.15	\$ 28,675.00
Capital Payments for property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	40.48	\$ 7,811,219.00
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	1.77	\$ 341,560.00
Payments to suppliers	33.98	\$ 6,558,281.00
Payments to employees	23.08	\$ 4,454,746.00
Finance costs	0.53	\$ 103,112.00
Total Cash Outflows	100.00	\$ 19,297,593.00

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9. SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

10. QUESTIONS TO THE 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

11. MOTIONS ON THE 2021/2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Nil.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.18 pm.

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Greg Kieser
Mayor